

The ABSTRACT section:

(paragraph starting at page 62, line 1)

Methods and compositions for modulating mammalian gamete adhesion are provided. Representative modulators of gamete adhesion include, but are not limited to polypeptides comprising at least one discoidin/C domain, and optionally at least one EGF domain. A representative polypeptide includes, but is not limited to SED1 polypeptides (SEQ ID NO. NOs. 2-7), prodrugs, fragments, or derivatives thereof. Methods for identifying modulators of SED1-mediated gamete adhesion are also provided.